



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Robert Owen Blount

**DETROIT MAN SENTENCED TO 100 MONTHS
FOR KNIFE-POINT ROBBERY OF LETTER CARRIER**

A 53-year-old Detroit man who robbed a United States Postal Service Letter Carrier with a twelve-inch long butcher knife was sentenced to 100 months incarceration in United States District Court today, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Gregory Campbell, Postal Inspector in Charge, United States Postal Service.

Robert Owen Blount's sentencing follows his guilty plea on October 25, 2006, to one count of Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon before United States District Judge John Corbett O'Meara in Ann Arbor. During his plea Blount admitted that on May 3, 2006, at approximately 11:30 a.m. he approached a Letter Carrier at Forest and Lenox Streets in Detroit as she was delivering her mail. Blount engaged the victim in conversation and attempted to grab mail from the letter carrier. Blount produced a butcher knife with a 12 inch blade. The carrier dropped the mail. Blount picked it up and attempted to flee the scene. He was apprehended by members of the Detroit Police Department.

Following 100 months in federal prison, Blount will face three years of supervised release.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy stated, "This prosecution demonstrates the significant challenges sometimes faced by Postal Service employees when carrying out their responsibilities. Today's sentence shows that violence against United States Postal Service employees and interference with the integrity of the U.S. Mail will not be tolerated. We will prosecute such criminal conduct to the fullest extent of the law."

This investigation was conducted by the United States Postal Inspection Service. Assistant United States Attorney John Freeman prosecuted the case.